

Update on Census-Related Residential District Adjustments

October 4, 2021

Tim Maloney, Planning, Development and Inspections Director

@wakegov



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Purpose

That the Board of Commissioners receives an update on Census-Related Residential District Adjustments of the Wake County Board of Commissioners; and reviews the Criteria to Guide the Process.

Background

- Wake County recently received the 2020 census data with updated population figures.
- In accordance with state law, the Board may use this data to adjust the geographies of the Board's districts to achieve population balance among the districts.
- The districts were last adjusted in 2011, after the 2010 census.
- Staff is advising the districts be adjusted again given the current population disparity.
- Staff is also advising the following criteria be used to guide the process.

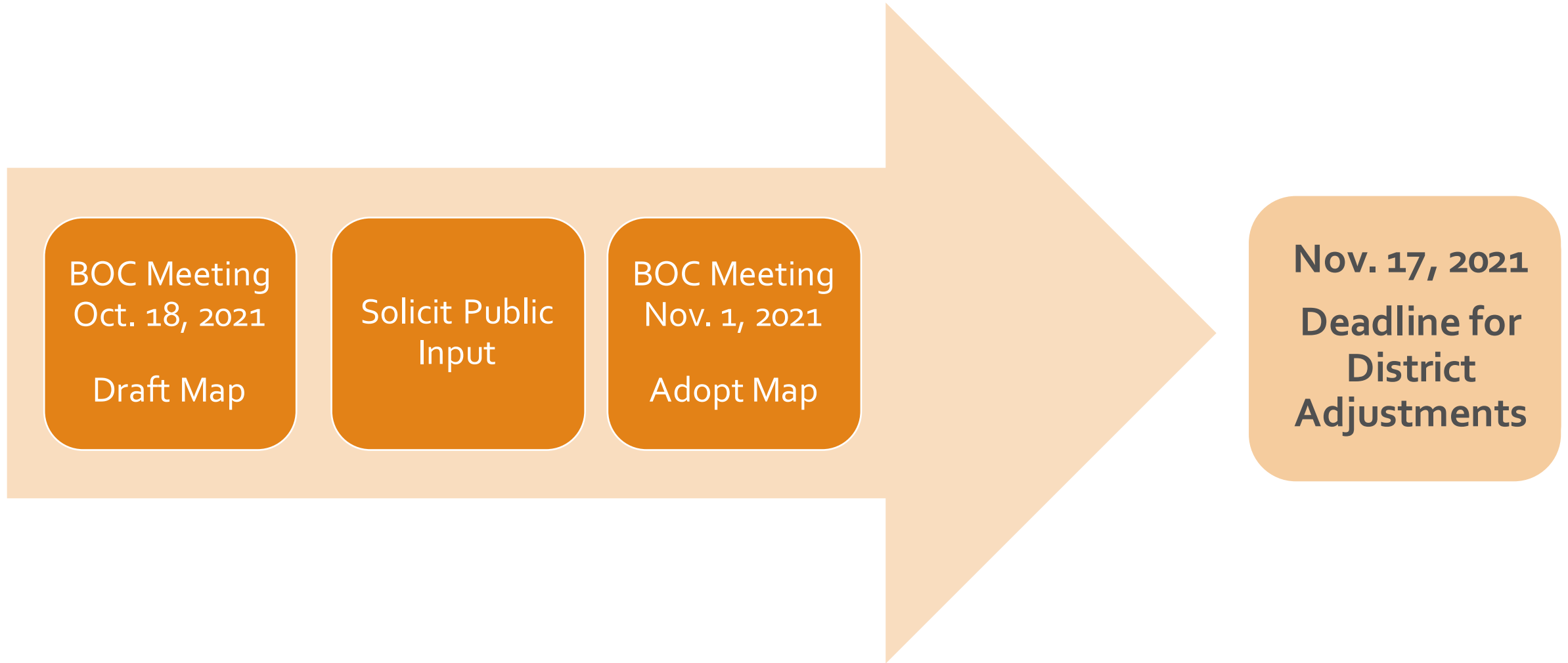
Criteria to Guide Process

1. ***Equal Population*** – Data from the 2020 Census Voter Tabulation Districts will be used to balance the population in drawing the adjusted districts. The population in each district will comply with a +/-5% deviation.
2. ***Incumbency Protection*** – The pairing of incumbent commissioners with other incumbent commissioners in the adjusted districts will be avoided.
3. ***Contiguity*** – The adjusted districts will be comprised of contiguous territory.
4. ***Split Precincts*** – Reasonable efforts will be made to avoid or minimize splitting Wake County Board of Elections voting precincts.

Criteria to Guide Process

5. ***No Consideration of Demographic Data*** – Data identifying the race, ethnicity or age of individuals or voters shall not be used.
6. ***No Consideration of Electoral Data*** – Reasonable efforts will be made to ensure that the process is not guided by electoral data and partisan political influences.
7. ***Compactness*** – Reasonable efforts will be made to ensure that adjusted districts will have the minimum distance between all the parts of the population.
8. ***Communities of Interest*** – Consideration will be given to preserving geographical areas, such as neighborhoods, where residents have a common social or cultural connection.

Next Steps



Discussion



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